

Message Text

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61/51

ORIGIN ITFE-05

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DRAFTED BY: ITAF:EGREEN:BB

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S/S-O:PJOHNSON

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P 121856Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI MI

EGLIN AFB

CGCAMP PENDLETON

CG FTCHAFFEE

INDIANTOWN GAP MILITARY RESERVATION

UNCLAS STATE 137453

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT LINE NO. 17 25 PERCENT VICE
25)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: SEN. SCOTT'S PRESS CONFERENCE

FOR CIVIL COORDINATOR

WE THINK YOU WILL BE INTERESTED IN THE FOLLOWING Q
AND A FROM SENATOR HUGH SCOTT'S JUNE 10 PRESS CONFERENCE.

Q. DO YOU THEN TAKE ISSUE WITH SENATOR KENNEDY WHO SAID
AT LEAST PARTS OF IT ARE A SHAMBLES?

A. YES. THE KENNEDY STAFF REPORT IS BADLY RESEARCHED, ILL-
DRAFTED, INACCURATE, MISLEADING AND SHOULD NEVER HAVE
BEEN ISSUED. I QUOTE JULIA TAFT ON THAT: "IN GENERAL,
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WE THINK THE REPORT IS SLANDEROUS, BASED ON FALSE PRE-

MISES, CONTAINS MORE RHETORIC THAN FACT AND IS A
DISSERVICE TO THE THOUSANDS OF MILITARY, CIVILIAN AND

VOLUNTARY PERSONNEL WHO HAVE DEDICATED EXTRAORDINARILY
LONG HOURS IN THE LAST SEVEN WEEKS TO INSURE THE
EFFECTIVE MOVEMENT AND PROCESSING OF THE REFUGEES TO THEIR
NEW HOMES."

NOW TO SPECIFICS. THE REPORT CHARGES THAT THE RE-
SETTLEMENT PROGRAM IS NOT OFF THE GROUND. THE ANSWER IS
THAT IN 7 WEEKS ALMOST 25 PERCENT OF THA REFUGEES HAVE BEEN

RELEASED TO OTHER COUNTRIES OR RESETTLED IN HE U.S. ON
THE RESETTLEMENT IN OTHER COUNTRIES, INITIAL PROGRESS WAS
SLOW, BUT 3,459 PERSONS HAVE BESN RESETTLED IN OTHER
COUNTRIES AND MORE ARE GOING.

ON VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION, OF 131,000 REFUGEES, ONLY
1,563 HAVE REQUESTED REPATRIATION TO DATE.

THE KENNEDY STAFF REPORT SUGGESTS BETTER STRUCTURING OF
THE TASK FORCE AND TRANSFER TO HEW AS THE CLEARLY DEFINED
FOCAL POINT FOR RESETTLEMENT. THE ANSWER TO THAT IS THE
SHIFT TOWARD DOMESTIC AGENCY PARTICIPATION HAS BEEN
ACCELERATING. THE DIRECTOR IS AN HEW SENIOR OFFICIAL AND
THE STAFF SUPPORT FROM JOMASTIC AGENCIES, PRIMARILY,
HEW, IS EXPANDING.

THERE IS CRITICISM OF THE CONDITIONS IN GUAM AND A
SUGGESTION FOR ADDITIONAL CENTERS. NO NEW CENTERS ARE
ENVISIONED AT THIS TIME. WIH THE CURRENT RATE OF OUT-
PROCESSING IN THE STATES, GUAM WILL HAVE NO REFUGEES BY
THE END OF JULY. WE ARE ON TARGET, SAYS THA TASK FORCE.

THERE ARE SPECIFIC ANSWERS TO EACH OF THE OTHER CHARGES
THROUGHOUT -- SUCH AS THE TRAINING PROGRAMS AND
SYSTEMATIC REGISTRATION PROCEDURES, ETC. THIS WAS AN
ATTEMPT TO GAIN POLITICAL PROFIT FROM A HUMANITARIAN
MOVEMENT WHICH, IN VIEW OF THE DELAY OF CONGRESS IN
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APPROPRIATING FUNDS, HAS HAD A REMARKABLE RECORD. KISSINGER

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